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INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

S-E-C-R-E-T PROCESSING COPY 25X1

COUNTRY	Bulgaria	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Iskur River Hydroelectric Complex. (including map showing locations of dams, locks, & Kokalyane power stations)	DATE DISTR.	3 June 1958
		NO. PAGES	1
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		REFERENCES	
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PLACE & DATE ACQ.			25X1

SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

[redacted]

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STATE	X	ARMY	X	NAVY	X	AIR	X	FBI		AEC							

(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#".)

25X1

[redacted]

Summer 1957

New basin and hydroelectric plant of ..... Kokalyane (a place not indicated on the available map and located along the Iskur River, about 25 kilometers southeast of Sofia) [redacted].

25X1

The stretch of the Iskur River from about 4 kilometers south of Gorublyane up to the gorge (included) of Dolni Pasarel has been artificially developed in such a way as to obtain a series of basins for the purpose of [redacted] water for a new hydroelectric plant and also for providing a considerable water reserve for irrigating the Sofia countryside.

The favorable variations of climate in the area will afterward be indirectly exploited for creating a health and summer resort in the vicinity, to be called the "Sea of Sofia."

The hydroelectric plant is scheduled to go into operation in 1958, and the irrigation works are also scheduled to be completed in 1958. The creation of the health and summer resort is to be begun in 1958.

Work on the project was begun in 1953 and was officially concluded in the spring of 1957. The hydroelectric power plant, however, is not yet in operation.

The entire system of dams and basins is called the "Barrage Stalin." The progress of the work is evident from the sketch in enclosure No. 1, on which the following numbers indicate the various details of the project as described below:

1. Earthen dam delimiting the waters of an artificial lake, which is to serve as a final reservoir for irrigating the Sofia countryside by means of artificial canals. At present this lake measures only about 250 by 250 meters, because upstream the water of the Iskur River is flowing into the main reserve basin until it is filled. The depth of the lake is not known.

2. The artificial lake just mentioned.

3. A lock abreast the village of Pancharevo.

4. An uncovered concrete canal about 5 meters wide and about 7 or 8 kilometers long. This canal carries the water flowing down from the hydroelectric power plant upstream into the lake at No. 1. The water from the overflow - when the lock at No. 3 is put into operation - will flow back into the Iskur River.

5. Foot bridge.

6. New hydroelectric power plant of Kokalyane, [redacted] about 400 meters southeast of the village. The structure is located on a mountain slope which comes right up against it. On observing it one has the impression that half of the plant is underground.

The building has a front of about 50 meters and is a 3-story structure (at least that is the way it looks from the outside). It is already equipped with a transformer [redacted].

The power plant is not yet in operation, but it is said that it is scheduled to [redacted] begin operating in 1958, when the canal works for the irrigation of the Sofia area will be completed.

[redacted] 25X1

[redacted] the power plant will have a capacity 25X1
of 250,000 [redacted] kilowatt-hours [? probably kilowatts].

7. Two pressure conduits running along the slopes of the mountain, partly [redacted] underground and partly above the surface. These are steel conduits with a diameter of about 1.5 meters; their length is not known. The volume of the flow is not known.

8. Lock [redacted] no details. 25X1

9. Electric power line, already in place, with the [redacted] cables. On the mountainous part, most exposed to the wind, it is strung on steel trellises. On the level land, where there is less wind, it is hung on concrete pylons shaped like this ⊓. The insulators are arranged like spark plugs, each equipped with 5 or 7 [redacted] 25X1
[redacted] porcelain disks. 25X1

10. Concrete dam about 30 meters high, about 60 meters long, and about 3 meters wide at the [redacted] crest.

11. Feeder basin about 100 meters long, about 40 meters wide, and of undetermined depth.

12. Dam of Iezovir (a place not indicated on the available map, about 30 kilometers from Sofia on the road leading to Samokov), containing the real main reserve basin. It is a concrete dam about 80 meters high on the downstream side; [redacted] on the 25X1
basin side the water is 70 meters deep. The dam is about 100 meters long and the width at the crest is about 20(?) meters, plus two sidewalks, each about 2 meters wide.

25X1

13. Three steel locks with floodgates operated by hand winches. These locks are each about 2 meters wide. A discharge canal carries the overflow back into the Iskur River.

14. Artificial basin of Iezovir. This basin is about 5 kilometers long and about one kilometer wide. the basin is 25X1 about 70 meters deep at the dam.

Note: Because of unforeseen and considerable natural seepage in the basin, the water level is not rising as rapidly as was calculated.

25X1

Topographic changes: Following the creation of the main basin, three villages 25X1 have been submerged. The inhabitants were moved to the Dobruja area.

The highway to Samokov has undergone a change: it now runs almost the entire distance on the left bank of the Iskur. The stretch from the Iezovir dam to Samokov has been newly laid, since the previous road here was submerged. The road is about 6.5 meters wide and is of the paving block type.

Miscellaneous: There is a good deal of natural seepage in the bed of the Iskur River and it is said that the remaining stretches, where various waters flow, will all be artificially canalized in the near future.

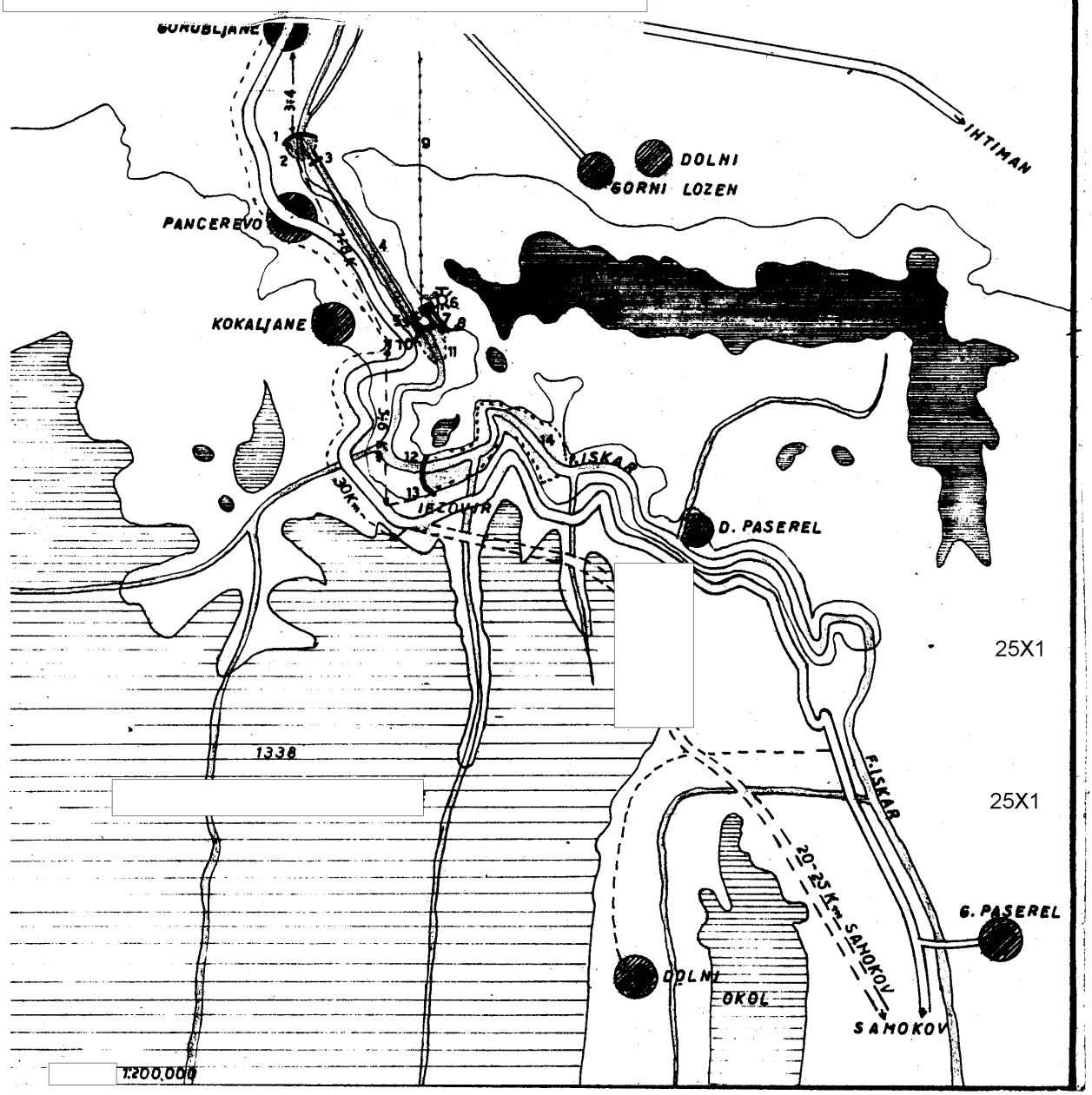
25X1

25X1

LEGEND for Sketch No. 1 ("Barrage Stalin")

1. Earthen dam.
2. Artificial lake.
3. Lock.
4. Exposed artificial canal.
5. Foot bridge.
6. New hydroelectric power plant of Kokalyane.
7. Pressure [redacted] pipes.
8. Lock.
9. Electric power line.
10. Dam.
11. Feeder basin.
12. Iezovir dam.
13. Locks.
14. Artificial basin of Iezovir.

(BARRAGE STALIN)-



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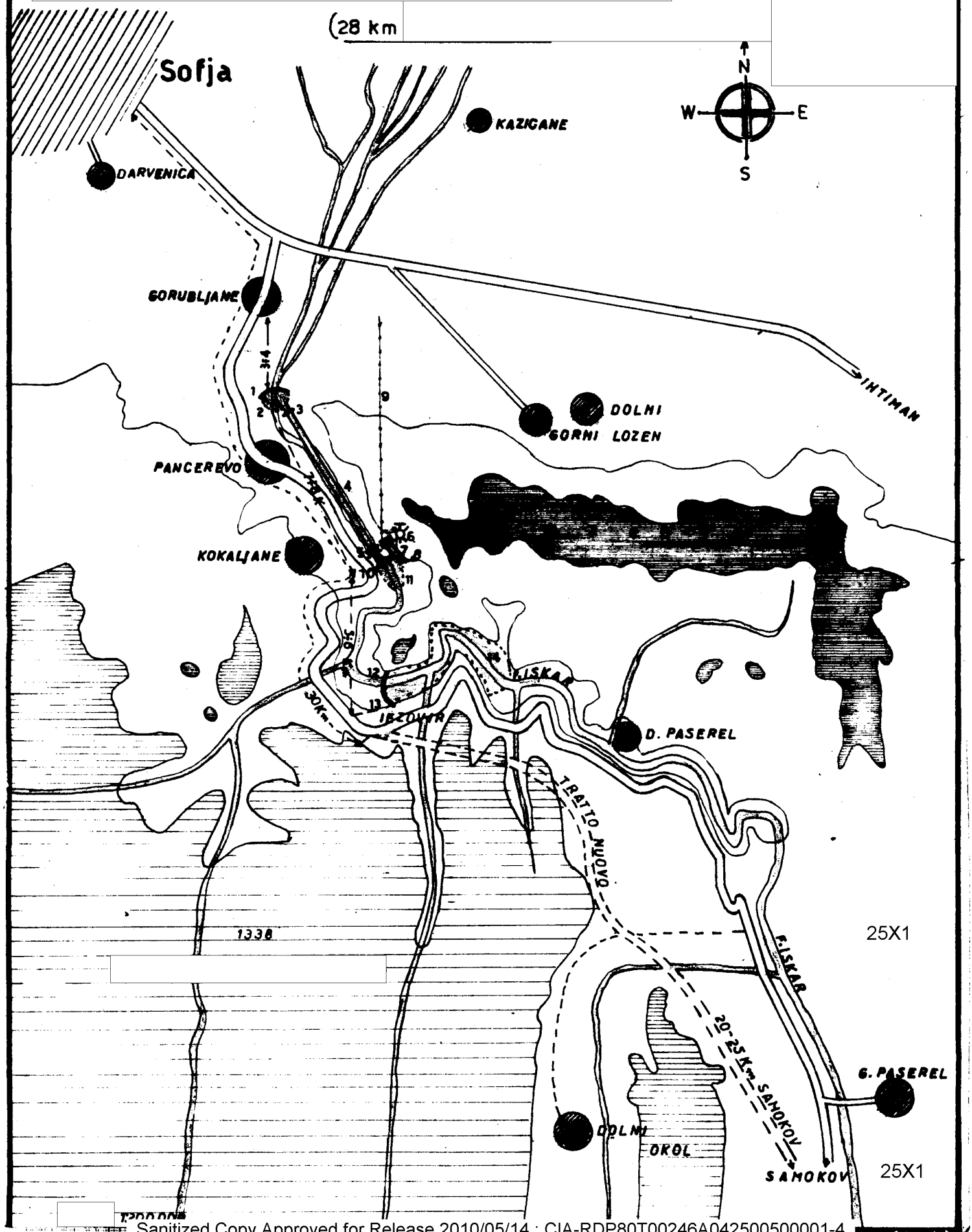
(BARRAGE STALIN)-



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